

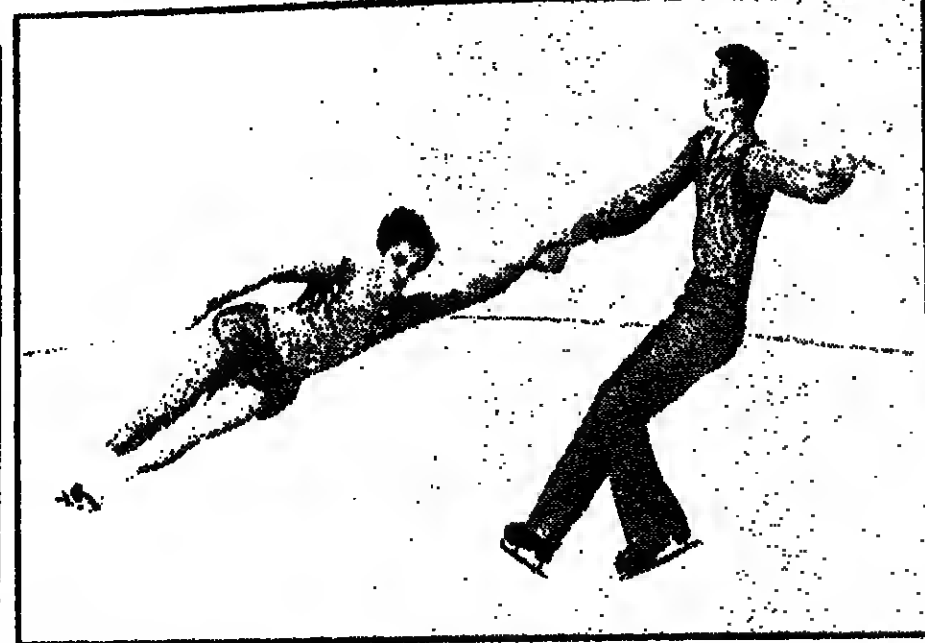
SPORTS

Favourites going strong

The last two events in the programme of the 1988 winter Olympic Games at the Krynitzkoye Olympic cycling track, in Moscow, brought victory to noted racing cyclists. Twice world champion Sergei Kopylov, from Tula, won the sprint and Olympic champion Alexander Kasimov, from Leningrad, won the 50 km time trial.

The results of the championship would seem to indicate that the chief candidates for the national squad in this Olympic season will be experienced cyclists who are now in their prime—1980 Olympic champions and winners of the last two world championships, among them Viktor Manakov, Valery Morozov, Kasimov, Kopylov, and Konstantin Khrushchev. World junior champion Nikolai Kozlov, from Moscow, is the discovery of the championship, as he placed third in the sprint in his first ever adult tournament.

As for the future, Soviet cyclists intend to compete in the European Cup in the individual (March)—and team and team



Leningrad silver medalists Yelena Valova and Oleg Vasiliev.

Photo by Valery Kiselev

Expected results and surprises in figure skating

The first event in the programme of the European figure skating championship, being held at the West German city of Dortmund, produced the first championship sensation. Championship debutants Yelena Valova and Oleg Vasiliev, a pair from Leningrad, won silver medals, their first in a senior tournament of this class. Their performance won wide applause from the crowd. Interestingly enough, they were introduced in the Soviet team at the last minute, replacing 1982 world and European silver medalists Marina Petukhova and Stanislav Leonovich, who had to withdraw due to an injury. Pairs in the championship's final, a series of two triple-turn jumps and moved up from seventh position after the short programme to third overall.

The GDR pair of Sabina Baus and Tassilo Thierbach won their second title running, and their competitors Birgit Lorenz and Knut Schubert placed third.

A tall relegated Muscovite Veronika Pershina and Mariel Akhmetov to fourth position, with world junior champions Marina Avdeyeva and Yuri Kravtsov placing fifth.

Norbert Schramm, of West Germany, also won his second successive title in the men's event, ahead of "Moscow News" Prize bronze medalist Josef Salovek, of Czechoslovakia, while the winner of the latter Muscovite Alexander Farkov was placed third. In the free programme Farkov performed, for the first time in the championship's history, a series of two triple-turn jumps and moved up from seventh position after the short programme to third overall.

The battle for the medals in the women's event, and the fences is still going strong.

LAST YEAR'S CHAMPION

Only this January, Vladimir Lukin emerged as Bulgaria's 1982 chess champion.

The men's championship was held last December, but no one had emerged in the final tournament, with Lukin and Vladimir Litkov coming out on top. In an extra match for first place, three out of the four games earlier scheduled were played, and Lukin won his win at 2.5 to 0.5.

He is now the country's 30th male chess champion, as well as their youngest International Grandmaster (born May 13, 1950).

He attended the world Olympic twice, having totalled 13 points out of a possible 16 in last year's tournament in Lucerne, Switzerland.

SOVIET DRIVERS ASTRIDE ITALIAN MOTORCYCLES

Under the agreement between the Italian Cagiva Motor S.p.A. and the USSR Motor Cycling Federation, Soviet racers Yuri Khudakov and Andrey Lebedevsky will be driving the company's 500 cc motorbikes at this year's world cross country championship.

This is the first time our 500 cc motorbikes will be in international action. Both the racers' and the company's representatives are working for a frank and constructive discussion on the present grave situation in the world, on the danger arising from the arms race, and on ways to remove the threat of a nuclear disaster in Europe and in the world.

One biggest opposition to this year's world cross country championship is the Italian Cagiva Motor S.p.A. and the USSR Motor Cycling Federation, Soviet racers Yuri Khudakov and Andrey Lebedevsky will be driving the company's 500 cc motorbikes at this year's world cross country championship.

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B. Lubman and B. Miel, the GDR (photo), won the double bobsledding title at Sarajevo, capital of the 1984 Winter Olympics.

Telephone Telegrams

Golden Spiked Shoe' winners

Basketball cups on

400 m world and European winner Maria Koch, of the GDR, and 400 m hurdles world and European record holder Heidi Schmidt, of West Germany, have been voted the European runners of the year in the "Golden Spiked Shoe" survey, which drew 265 coaches, sports writers and personalities from 24 countries.

Svetlana Ulmasova, Olga Alieyeva and Olga Divina, of the USSR, made the top ten.

Record improved

Helga Deute, of the GDR, 18, long-jumped 6.88 m, a new indoor world record, improving by two centimetres the former mark set a year ago by Soviet Svetlana Zolina (Vanyushina) and by 12 centimetres the GDR's seven-year-old mark.

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Win for Lithuanian bialist

Algis Salna, 23, from Kaunas, won the 20 km national bialisthion title at Rukla (Georgina village), clocking 1 hr 09 min 30 sec (two penalty minutes).

National team coaches will choose the competitors for the world championship of bialisthion, Italy, due on February 22-27, on the strength of their performance in the national championship.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN VIENNA

Vienna. Ways to remove the threat of war in Europe to the theme of an international conference which is being held in the Austrian capital. 250 delegates from 26 European countries, including the Soviet Union, and from the United States and Canada are in attendance.

The conference is held at the initiative of a group of prominent political and public leaders from CSCE countries.

Its aims are to effect a broad exchange of views between representatives of political parties of all hues and organizations working for détente and disarmament; and to achieve frank and constructive discussion on the present grave situation in the world, on the danger arising from the arms race, and on ways to remove the threat of a nuclear disaster in Europe and in the world.

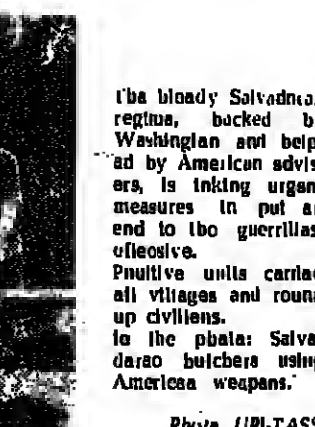


FORUM OF FINNISH PUBLIC

Helsinki. A complete ban on nuclear weapons and the renunciation of the deployment of American medium-range nuclear weapons have been demanded by a forum of Finnish public organizations, the Public Parliament for Disarmament. Delegates to the forum who come from more than 180 public organizations, analysed a large number of peace initiatives put forward by the Finnish public, the most important of which are to be handed over to the Finnish President, Parliament and government, and also to the leaders of political organizations.

CUELLAR CALLS FOR SPEEDY NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT

Harare. The international community's serious concern with the endless procrastination in the solution of the Namibian problem has been expressed by the UN Secretary General J. Pérez de Cuellar, now on a visit to Zimbabwe. Addressing a press conference at the end of his talks with the Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, he sharply criticized South Africa's aggressive policies against the frontline states.



activities mounted by Pretoria that is causing most concern in the region. J. Pérez de Cuellar called on the international community to take resolute steps to secure Namibia's speedy independence. On the American and South African attempts to link Namibia's independence with a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, he noted that this sort of linkage cannot serve as a precondition for the Namibian solution. The Cuban presence in the People's Republic of Angola is a matter for Cuba and Angolan bilateral relations. On our part, we must act on the basis of the Security Council's Resolution 435, he said.

BIG PINE MANOEUVRES

Managua. The United States and Honduras have completed their military manoeuvres, code-named the Big Pine, a few kilometres from the Nicaraguan border. The American and Honduran generals view the manoeuvres as having been successful and say that they attained their targets. During the six-day exercises, the American paratroopers "routed" an army of "Reds" and "liberated" a battalion of Honduran soldiers "besieged" in the fort of Mocoran.

The Big Pine—the largest set of exercises ever held in Central America—was conceived by the Reagan administration but far-reaching aims. They were used by the United States to bolster the Honduran military and to inspire the Honduran-based Somoza counter-revolutionaries to continue their crimes against the Nicaraguan people. This was declared in an interview to the "Prensa Libre" magazine by Tomás Borge, member of the National Leadership.

DECLARATION BY SOVIET LAWYERS

Soviet international lawyers have called on their colleagues in all countries to actively join in the growing anti-war movement of the peoples and to take a firm stand against power politics, the arms race, and anti-communism and for the strict observance of international law. This reads a statement issued by the Soviet Association of International Law adopted at its annual meeting. The Soviet Union and other

Aeroflot anniversary

Aeroflot, the Soviet civil airways, the largest airline company in the world, is 60. During this time regular air routes have been set up between 3,600 cities and towns of the Soviet Union while total air route length exceeds one million kilometres. Regular flights have been established to 116 cities in more than ninety foreign countries.

Each year Aeroflot airplanes and helicopters carry over 100 million passengers and about 2.5 million tonnes of cargo and mail. Aeroflot's cooperation with the socialist states is developing successfully.

Strong links have also been built up with the Asian, African and Latin American countries. On the African continent alone Aeroflot planes land on the airfields of nearly 40 countries.

Aeroflot also cooperates on a mutually advantageous basis with the air companies of capitalist countries—Air France, Lufthansa, SAS, British Airways, JAL.

New air routes to South America and India will be opened soon.

Soviet states wage an ideological battle for the observance of the principles of modern international law. In the Political Declaration adopted in 1983 by the Warsaw Treaty member countries and in the speeches made by Yuri Andropov, specific proposals have been put forward imbued with the desire for reaching agreements which would relieve the tension being created by the Reagan administration policies.

Figure-skating spectacular over

The "more play" exhibition performance crowned the European figure skating championship at the Dortmund Westfaliahalle Palace of Sport, with Soviet skaters getting invitations to appear to all 160 events. The USSR got the biggest tally of medals—one gold, three silvers and a bronze.

"Moscow News" Prize tournament dancing winners Muscovites Natalya Bestemyanova and Andrei Bukin were unrivalled at the championship. Their confident look, the lead in the obligatory dances, and never looked back, securing the European title for the USSR. Their teammates Olga Volochinova and Alexander Svinin, who ran up to them, displayed a considerably improved performance.

Muscovite Yelena Vodorenko won the first women's European title for the USSR. The other Soviet favourites with the crowd were Alexander Fadeyev, Vladimir Kotin, and the Yelena Valova and Oleg Vasiliev pair and the Marine Klimova-Sergei Panov duo.

The world championship will take place in Helsinki on March 9-14. European skating champions Natalya Bestemyanova and Andrei Bukin of the USSR.

Photo AP-TASS



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"Moscow News" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers to brief the latest information on events in the USSR and the world, reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both "Moscow News" and "SIN to

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MIN INFORMATION

ARAB MOVEMENTS DISCUSS LEBANON

Tripoli. A meeting of Arab movements and public organizations has ended its sessions here after discussing the situation in the Arab world following the Israeli aggression in Lebanon. The meeting which was originally planned as a conference of the Pan Arab National Congress, was attended by nearly 350 delegates representing more than 150 political and public organizations in the region. In the final communiqué, the delegates spoke in favour of holding a meeting of representatives of the Arab national liberation movements to discuss the present situation in the Middle East and to look for ways of

working out a platform of joint action against aggression by imperialism and reaction. The delegates decided to set up a national fund to give financial support to the national liberation movements in the region and to launch a large-scale campaign against the plans to install American bases for the Rapid Deployment Force on Arab soil. It was decided in appeal to the Pan Arab Front for Solidarity and Cooperation that it step up efforts to oppose intrigues by the opponents of the Arab nation and to help Syria in its confrontation against Israel.

GEORGE SHULTZ ENDS PEKING TALKS

Peking. The US State Secretary George Shultz has ended his meetings here with Deng Xiaoping, Zhu Yizhang, Foreign Minister Wu Xiqian and Defence Minister Zhang Aiping. The Xinhua news agency reports that the negotiations discussed the state of Sino-American relations, Taiwan, a number of international issues of mutual interest, as well as Sino-Soviet and American-Soviet relations. Premier of the State Council Zhu Yizhang was given President Reagan's invitation to visit.

all the United States and accepted it. The time for the visit will be agreed later.

During the discussion of trade and economic matters, the Chinese also stressed that the American government to restrict the export of Chinese textiles to the United States will have a negative effect on the development of trade between the two nations.

George Shultz also met former premier Shengouk now in Peking.

Bruno Kreisky gives press conference

Washington. At the White House, President Reagan has had talks with the Austrian Federal Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. Addressing journalists after the meeting, Kreisky stressed that the Soviet Union was strictly a partner for Austria to decide on.

He noted that to all the countries of Western Europe increasingly insistent demands are being made for the need to conduct "very serious talks" on arms control, in order to prevent the rearmament of the European continent. He stressed that never before has there been such a powerful anti-war movement in Western Europe.



This sickles will suit you fine, Me'm! Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

RESPONSE
AMERICAN
'CONCERN' AND
WHAT'S BEHIND IT

The incessant threats and military provocations being carried out by Israel at Syria's expense have compelled Damascus to take steps to build up its air defence.

It would seem that this is a completely justifiable step taken by a sovereign state seeking to protect its security from the encroachments of an aggressor in keeping with the UN Charter. However, the Syrian action has caused irritation in Washington. Why? Is it possible that the United States hopes for a repetition of what happened to the Jordanian army in 1967 when the Jordanian soldiers rebuffed attacks by Israeli troops were killed from the air with absolute impunity only because the West had actually deprived Jordan of modern anti-aircraft weapons?

Could it be that the United States wants a repetition of the Lebanese tragedy when the Israeli Air Force dominating in the air bombed and strafed the densely populated parts of Lebanese cities and towns killing thousands of defenceless civilians?

Having expressed "concern" over the steps taken by Syria to reinforce its defence, an official spokesman for the US State Department Robert John Hughes has alleged that such measures will not lead to peace in the region. However, the statements concern expressed by the American foreign affairs department have nothing in common with the search for ways towards a lasting and just peace in the Middle East. What the Americans are worried about is in effect the security of the Israeli aggressor. The United States does not want its strategic ally to suffer a debacle on the scale of the 1973 rout when tens of Israeli aircraft were brought down over Syria. It is much less troublesome for them to deal with a defenceless enemy who is unable to resist an aggressor. It is for reasons like these that the American administration is trying to cast a slur on Syria's legitimate right to self-defence.

ISRAELI
GOVERNMENT
PLANS

Cairo. The Israeli government has come up with a new plan for the annexation of Arab land seized by force.

According to the Qatar News Agency, quoting reports leaked to the Israeli press, the plan provides for settling the Palestinian population living on the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip in special reservations. According to the plan, the "Palestinian ghettos" are to be located in areas least suited to normal life. The rest of the territory is to be colonized on a large scale, a task that Tel Aviv has already sunk its teeth into.

FACTS
and EVENTS

US Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick has arrived in Panama as part of her ten-day tour of a number of Central and Latin American countries. Apart from Panama she will visit Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador and Venezuela. Announcing the tour, the Deputy Press Secretary of the White House L. Spenser noted that it represented a follow-up on President Reagan's December visit to the region.

STATEMENT
BY SENATOR
CRANSTON

Washington. US Senator A. Cranston has formally declared his intention of running for president as the Democratic Party candidate.

At 68, Senator Cranston from California, is the Democratic minority deputy leader in the Senate. He is an active critic of the current administration's policy on runaway military spending and on preparations for nuclear war. He co-authored a draft resolution placed before Congress on a mutual freeze on American and Soviet nuclear arms.

Cranston is the first politician to have formally announced his intention to run for president in 1984.

PEOPLE

The New Zealand newspaper inilling rank vessel, Kelly Thurston, has concluded a contract with his government, according to which he undertakes to lift the British sailing vessel the "General Grant" from the depths of the ocean. The "General Grant" sank in 1886 with a cargo of gold on board estimated at 185 million dollars at present prices.

A 25-year-old inhabitant of Naples, Aurora Fontanella, has become the mother of quintuplets — three boys and two girls.

RACISM AND INFANT
MORTALITY

London. Nearly one hundred people die from hunger in South Africa every day among the black and coloured members of the population and newcomers from Asia. These statistics were given in a report by Professor A. Moses, Dean of the Faculty of Pediatrics at the University of Natal who has studied data from different medical establishments on infant mortality.

Constant malnutrition, which has become a usual phenomenon



Argentina was recently swept by demonstrations and meetings protesting over the 150th anniversary of the British seizure of the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands and demanding that Britain resume talks to reach a fair and ultimate settlement of the issue of Argentina's sovereignty over the islands.

In the photo: the poster being carried by these demonstrators reads: "Where are our brothers and sisters?" Photo from "Cumbin-16"

Science and Technology

HAIR

AND HEART ATTACKS

Can signs of an impending heart attack be detected by the condition of one's hair? Yes, say Hungarian doctors at the Medical Institute in Debrecen and at the cardiological clinic in Balatonfured. They have come to the conclusion that the hair of someone who is under threat of a heart attack contains ten times less calcium than the hair of a healthy person.

WAS IT 'INSTANT
EVOLUTION'?

Recently, scientists discovered a kangaroo of a unique type on one of the Hawaiian Islands. These species of kangaroos which only came into existence 60 years ago are descendants of a pair of Australian wallabies who escaped from the Hawaii Zoo in 1916. Today, the valley colony has several hundred animals. However, the resettled

animals have also peculiar traits. For some reason, the Hawaiian wallabies are smaller and lighter in colour than their Australian ancestors. There are two possible explanations. The first is the "influence of the founding father" of the colony, as the island's entire wallaby population descended from only one pair. The other explanation is unusually rapid evolution. Wallabies which are smaller and lighter in colour are more in keeping with the Hawaiian landscape, and therefore, they have had more chances of survival.

ARTIFICIAL ARM



Experts from Hanover University have created a unique postumatic artificial limb. Two "articulation" microdrives are accommodated to the shoulder joint and elbow, making the artificial limb as supple and allowing it to perform all the usual functions of a normal human arm, even to the extent of tensing up under weight. A patient has already been equipped with one such limb which is now coping successfully with life itself.

COMPUTER TAKES

OVER FROM

STAGEHANDS

Electronics is boldly invading the area of the arts. On orders from the management of the Bavarian Opera House, in Munich the Siemens company has installed a computer in the building which not only helps children select tickets, but also lights up the stage and turns on the mechanism and instruments precisely. The computer is programmed to monitor all the equipment needed for each production and it thus helps cut down on the number of stagehands required.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

AN AGGRESSOR'S LOGIC

Analysing the situation on the Syrian-Lebanese frontier, the leader of the Israeli aggressors, Pavel Demchenko writes in PRAVDA that the immediate pretext for this was the Syrian measure to bolster the country's anti-aircraft defence. Just think: Syria is taking care to protect its towns and cities, which were the target of many on Israeli air raid from new such attacks. Surely this is the legitimate right of a sovereign nation! It has no mention of attacking anyone — so what is the danger in such measures for others?

But it is precisely on this issue that a terrible din has been raised. Such is the logic of the aggressor — to turn matters on their head. It is an open secret, however, that the ruling circles of Israel, begun Sharon and then like are conducting a criminal anti-Arab policy aimed at keeping neighbouring states in fear of their military machine, Demchenko points out.

BEHIND THE SCENES OF AN
UNDECLARED WAR

Analysing the situation created around Afghanistan, in SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA, A. Biryukov writes, among other things, that the irreversible processes of the strengthening of popular power at work there are giving serious concern to the organisers and instigators of the undeclared war against Afghanistan and their accomplices. In only a month's time, without any prominent Western statesman visiting the Afghan counter-revolutionary headquarters in Peshawar, the struggle continued in the "resistance fight" in Afghanistan and to promise new millions of dollars, pounds sterling and other currencies towards this "sacred cause".

A. Biryukov points out that all these activities aim at establishing a more rigid control over the crisis-ridden Afghan counter-revolutionary emigre groups in order to widen the scale of aggression against Afghanistan. It is to achieve this goal, that American and other Western ambassadors visit the counter-revolutionary camps and that public claims of support are made for the counter-revolution's "sacred cause". Wide scope is also laid to such behind-the-scenes methods as pressure, in the form of bribery, blackmail and threats to leave them without assistance, etc., which is brought to bear on the Afghan emigre leaders, Biryukov emphasises.

WHAT THEY SOW TODAY...

Oleg Vukhtinov writes in the NEW TIMES weekly about the warlike policies of Washington. Among other things he notes that President Reagan has brought expenditure on nuclear armaments to a level which twice exceeds the corresponding figures of four years ago. The Department of Defense has already asked that 30 thousand million dollars be allotted for the strategic nuclear forces in the 1984 fiscal year (in 1979—the relevant figure was 12.1 thousand million dollars). Does this policy answer the interests of the American people?

When the mass media extol power politics, they commit a crime against the present and future generations of Americans, preparing them for a solution of the main international problems through "cold" and even "hot" war.

But how can the leaders of the United States of America ignore the fact that missile weapons actually deprive the United States of America of all the advantages of its remoteness from other continents. It is this very remoteness that has enabled America in the course of both world wars to avoid the death of its civil population, for the theatre of war situated at a comfortable distance from its territory, Vukhtinov reminds us.

AN OPEN SECRET

Commenting on the economic changes which have occurred in Afghanistan in recent years, V. Vinogradov stressed in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA that progress rates in the economic resurgence of Afghanistan, and the increase in the material well-being of its population could be still higher, were the creative labour of the Afghans not blocked by the criminal activities of the counter-revolution operating from abroad. It has long been an open secret that the instigator and organiser of the "undeclared war" against Afghanistan is none other than Washington. It is with American money that some 80 special bases and camps were set up and operate in Pakistan, training anti-Afghan gangs of bandits before sending them into Afghanistan. American instructors are giving them full instruction in the science of killing, and in addition, they use American weapons, Vinogradov points out.

OF INTEREST

Polar bears like

Police take
to the air

From horses to a motorbike to a helicopter. To keep up with the times, police in the American city of Monterey intend to use a hang-glider with an engine, in order to learn to fly, a group of young policemen are taking a crash course sponsored by a firm producing hang-gliders.

Scholars from many countries who study the life style of the Polar bear have come to the unanimous conclusion that it likes to live in comfort. Zoo keepers are providing it with a large entrance. Many bear families prefer to live in "baths" in several days, connected by passages. Such "baths" have special holes in the thickets of part ice for ventilation.

VIEWPOINT

Edgar CHEPOROV

'Brainwashing'
American style

So, President Reagan has signed another directive — this time on the planning of the foreign policy propaganda of the United States. Over the two years of his rule, the master of the White House has succeeded in securing the world with a whole range of directives on "protracted nuclear war" and on the deployment of the MX and other systems, directives which have sharply been criticised, both in the United States and abroad. There is a logic in the fact that Washington has now started advertising its dangerous course. This is being done, according to the American press, to counteract the Soviet peace offensive and to neutralise the campaign in the United States to freeze nuclear weapons. To this end a committee has been set up of Cabinet level led by the Assistant to President for National Security Affairs, W. Clark, and including such prominent figures as State Secretary G. Shultz, Defence Secretary C. Weinberger and USA Director C. Wick.

According to "The Washington Post", the new committee was born of a sharply anti-Soviet address given by President Reagan to the British Parliament, on June 8. He called for a crusade for freedom which would actively challenge the

Soviet Union. This American "challenge", and its state on confrontation vis-a-vis details forms the core of Washington's foreign policy. Having failed to prove the worth of its policy to millions of compromised Americans or to the world at large, Washington clutched at the fictitious "Soviet military threat".

It was Washington aware of the waning impact of this slogan. No, it remains convinced that it needs to be humiliated ever more loudly for everything to go its way. But what ultimately matters is not propaganda itself but its root cause — real politics, the decisions and initiatives launched by statesmen.

Let us consider what preoccupies Washington propagandists and what they are after. No sooner had the new committee started its work than State Secretary G. Shultz voiced insistently at one of its sessions over the fact that opposition is so strong that the missiles which are thereby due to be deployed in West Germany might possibly not be deployed there. In his own circle, as we saw, the chief of the United States diplomatic department is quite outspoken in his pronouncements — the only thing that worries him is the future of those missiles. But what about itself? No man-

tion whatever is made of them. Significantly, for public consumption, the decision on missile "rearmament" for Western Europe, a decision the Pentagon dictated to its NATO allies, is still being referred to as a "dual" decision, envisaging the priority of talks over missileisation.

Indeed, present-day American foreign policy is developing into a "product" which is becoming increasingly harder to advertise and sell — even for the most shifty of travelling salesmen. How, one wonders, can Washington link its attempts to obtain sympathy for the American line with the principles of American nuclear strategy? In point of fact, right on the eve of the White House decision to set up the committee for planning US foreign policy propaganda, the world learnt of the assistance of a secret Pentagon and US national security council report stressing that a critical element in American military strategy is the escalation of conflict to the level of nuclear war. The United States, the report claims, is able to win such a war. It promotes the idea of an American test nuclear strike of targets in the USSR and other Warsaw Treaty member countries, using medium-range

nuclear weapons placed in Western Europe.

But how can one tie up American assurances of its loyalty to the cause of peace with its reluctance to meet the Soviet peace initiatives, in a constructive manner? Seeking to undermine the huge international impact of these initiatives, Washington has decided to misrepresent them. However, more and more people are now waking up to the fact that the threat to peace comes not from the USSR but from the USA, and what has caused them to open their eyes is not our cunning propaganda plays but rather the reality of our policy. At the recent Political Consultative Committee meeting in Prague the Warsaw Treaty member-states suggested to NATO that an agreement be concluded on the mutual non-use of armed force and on the maintenance of peace.

The core of such a treaty, it is suggested, should be a commitment by both allies not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional arms against each other — or armed force in general. The socialist countries also advocate freezing Europe of both nuclear-range and tactical nuclear weapons. And this is not now possible, we offer radical cuts in the medium-range nuclear means in Europe on the basis of parity and equal security.

The proposals put forward by the socialist nations aim at greater international détente and will be of benefit to all. But if Washington continues to follow the extreme course that it has done these past two years, no amount of propaganda and "brainwashing" will help it. The American leaders must recognise the Soviet call for peace in deed. This is what is expected of them by the world and by everyone desiring peace and détente.

BARRIE
BROUGHT TO FRANCE

Paris. The next war criminal Klaus Barbie, who found refuge to Bolivia following World War II, has been brought to France, which for the past eleven years has been seeking his extradition. This was finally achieved after the Bolivian authorities decided to expel him on charges of obtaining false Belgian citizenship under the name of Klaus Altmann.

Klaus Barbie, who was a former Gestapo chief in the French city of Lyons when France was occupied by Germany, became notorious for cruelty and for his personal participation in the massacres of members of the French Resistance. One of his victims was Jean Moulin, France's national hero and Chairman of the National Resistance Council. Barbie is responsible for the deaths of four thousand people.

In the fifties, a military tribunal in Lyons twice sentenced Barbie to death in his absence. Under assumed names he escaped to Bolivia and in a high number of other Latin American countries with dictatorial regimes. The governments of these countries willingly used his "expertise" to suppress the national opposition by means of terror.

Round the Soviet Union

IN TIME THE STAVROPOL THERMAL ELECTRIC POWER STATION WILL BE ONE OF THE MOST POWER PROJECTS IN THE NORTHERN CAUCASUS. Construction work has started on the eighth, and last, power unit. When it goes into operation at the end of this year, the station will have a total capacity of 2.4 million kilowatts.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BRIDGE ACROSS THE DNIPIR HAS BEGUN IN KIEV, THE CAPITAL OF THE UKRAINE. The biggest bridge in the city, it will connect Kiev to a large housing area, which is to be built in a few years' time on the left bank of the Dniپر.

THE FIRST SOVIET SERIAL 31-MEGAWATT GAS-PUMPHO UNIT HAS BEEN DESPATCHED FROM LENINGRAD TO THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE WESTERN SIBERIA-WESTERN EUROPE GAS PIPELINE. Tests have shown that these machines, built in Leningrad, have a long service life and are 20 per cent lighter than similar units produced in the West.

WITH ITS 330 SANATORIUMS AND REST HOMES, THE CRIMEAN PENINSULA WASHED BY THE BLACK AND AZOV SEAS IS ONE OF THE SOVIET UNION'S LARGEST RESORTS. Last year seven million people from all the constituent republics of the USSR and visitors from many foreign countries went on holiday and took treatment in the Crimea.

TRAFFIC TRAVELLING ALONG THE BUSIEST STREETS IN THE KAZAKH CAPITAL ALMA-ATA IS NO LONGER HELD UP FOR LONG PERIODS AT THE LIGHTS. At the most congested moment, the green light is now switched on by an automated urban traffic control system. A second computer which has been put into operation by staff operating the automatic control system "Ozond" has made this possible. The result is a speedup in the traffic flow along the main thoroughfares, and a noticeable drop in pollution from exhaust gas.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

'ENERGIA' SAVES ENERGY

An important problem in modern industry has become the rational use of energy resources which allows increasing the performance of production. Academician Igor Glebov initiates in 'IZVESTIA' about how this problem is being solved by scientists in Leningrad.

Our scientists have designed a ten-year programme "Energiya" whose aim is to perfect the energy-consuming technological processes.

In the present five-year plan period (1981-85), the programme should save 26 million tonnes of conventional fuel. The overall savings will exceed 800 million tonnes. All in all, throughout the decade, 93 million tonnes of conventional fuel should be saved, or 2.5 thousand million rubles.

In 1981 and in the six months last year, the Leningrad Institute that is taking part in the "Energiya" programme drew 204 inventor's certificates for energy-saving technological processes and equipment, and introduced 75 inventions saving 33 million tonnes a year.

The use of the Leningrad experience, stresses Igor Glebov, will help increase the savings of energy resources on a countrywide scale.

Several long-term public health programmes have been drawn up in the USSR, writes author Zory Bikiyon, in the 'RABOTNITSIA' magazine. Seven of them have been approved as state programmes by the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology. They provide for the development of efficient methods for fighting cardiovascular disease, malignant neoplasms and other dangerous ailments. There is one obligatory condition: the success of a particular programme is determined by the interdisciplinary character of every piece of research. About forty research establishments in this country, for example, are taking part in the

long-term "North" programme to solve medical-biological and sanitary engineering problems of the Far North.

What are the underlying principles guiding the preparation and implementation of the state medical programmes?

The principal formula for health, stresses Baluyon, is no follows: health is a state of complete physical, psychic and social well-being and not only the absence of disease and ailments. While before, the duties of a doctor were confined to providing people with aid, to relieving their suffering and to preventing them from premature dying, now they are preventing virtually from falling ill healthy people. This is why the programmes are taken into consideration in social planning. The improvement of the aggregate health of the population cannot be achieved by more increase in the number of doctors, hospital beds, and amount of drugs, although these are all important factors. Social planning envisages the improvement of housing, a better system of population distribution, better ecological conditions, the development of sport and novel, and the elimination of those labour conditions which entail "peak" physical and nervous loads. The Soviet state allocates great sums of money running into thousands of millions for all these measures. For on them depends human health.

SIBERIA-CENTRAL ASIA WATER BRIDGE

There is abundant heat and sun but not enough fresh-water in the Soviet Central Asian republics. The implementation of a new plan for economic development involving the deflection of the flow of large Siberian rivers to Central Asia will help solve the water problem there, writes the 'SOVIETSKY UZBEKISTAN' magazine.

For instance, the Ob alone can afford to give away, without harm to itself and to the northern seas, 22 to 23 cubic kilometres of water annually. This amount will help increase the farm produce in the southern regions



● Freshman Kostya Slavov sitting a chemistry exam. ● Just like any boy, Kostya likes playing soccer.

13-year-old freshman

One student among those filling the lecture-halls and laboratories of the medical institute in Leningrad, the capital of the Transcaucasian republic of Azerbaijan, immediately attracts attention. Kostya Slavov, aged 13, a first-year student at the faculty of general medicine, is considerably shorter than his colleagues. His achievements are still in their sixth term at school but Kostya carries a plumose diploma, and the snow-white overall and skull-cap of a doctor in his belt.

How did such a young student come to be admitted to the institute? Kostya learnt to read

at the age of two when he memorized the alphabet from an ABC, belonging to a little boy next door. He went to school at five, learned to read at seven and left at twelve with a gold medal. It was by no means easy for him to enter the institute for doctors were afraid the academic stress might be too much for a boy of his tender years. He was examined by a special medical commission while members of the academic staff checked his knowledge. Having passed all tests with flying colours, Kostya was admitted to the institute. He received excellent marks in his first exam session.

EXPORT GAS PIPELINE MOVES WESTWARDS

Construction work on the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline is going ahead smoothly and is far ahead of schedule. In January, 320 kilometres of gas pipeline were welded and 500 kilometres were laid in trenches.

A total of 2,000 kilometres of pipes were welded. Work on the export gas pipeline is now under way over the whole length of the 4,451-kilometre route from the Urengoi deposit in Western Siberia to the Western frontier of the USSR. Tests on a number of completed sections are being undertaken in the central part of the country.

The gas pipeline is being built by 47 construction teams. A total

of 51 teams will work on the route in February. The most strenuous work on the project is at present being done in Western Siberia. Builders there have to complete the construction of the route before the beginning of the spring thaws which will make the gas pipeline route impassable for machines.

As far as it concerns the territory of the European part of the USSR the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline has "negotiated" navigable rivers: the Volga, Don, Dnieper and Kama. In February it is planned to complete the three-kilometre long passage across the Oh River, to Sibirie.

Underground 'boiler room'

Another deposit of thermal waters—Esso—has appeared on the map of Kamchatka, reports a TASS correspondent. The State Commission for the Reserves of Useful Minerals has approved the exploitation of the deposit, which will account for more than 20 thousand cubic metres of hot water a day.

The new deposit has become a unique source of hot water used to heat the village of Esso, in the central part of the peninsula. Brought to the surface, the hot water is piped to the houses of hunters, reindeer breeders and builders. This has made it possible to do without boiler rooms proper, the fuel for which was brought from afar.

of the country by 10,000 million rubles. Capital investment in the deflection and use of Siberian rivers will pay off within a decade.

The mole water canal linking Siberia with Central Asia will be over 2,000 kilometres long.

Soviet scientists and irrigation specialists are already calculating the value of the project in social and economic terms, it is noted in the magazine.

ARTS EXPANSION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

People's desire to move to the cities is largely motivated by the fact that the latter are better off for cultural facilities. This is why special attention is now being paid to raising the level of culture available in the Soviet countryside, with the aim of eliminating differences in this area between town and country, says Yuri Melentyev, Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation, writing in 'PRAVDA'. This is a new step in the more important goals in the socio-economic development of the countryside.

Already much has been done, for instance, to improve the level of oral provision for people in the Russian Federation. There are now over 67,000 clubs and nearly 42,000 libraries in the countryside, and nearly 300,000 children studying at music and art schools in rural areas.

Lectures on films, literary discussions, various amateur activities, meetings between people sharing the same hobbies, etc., sports and youth disco's are held at clubs, libraries and rural arts complexes.

This year there are plans to hold a festival 'Theatre to the Countryside' jointly with the All-Russia Theatre Society. We hope, the minister continued, that it will lead to an expansion in the network of permanent rural branches of theatres. Regional philharmonies and concert organizations in Moscow and Leningrad, Melentyev emphasized, will be playing an ever greater part in catering for the cultural needs of the countryside.

MAN INFORMATION No. 12, 1981

NEW VILLAGES FOR ARMENIA

Last week the families of farmers and cattle-breeders in the Armenian village of Neraven, in the mountainous region of Sisian, moved into estate-type houses having the same amenities as urban dwellings. Already over 50 families have settled in the new village. In designing it architects in the Transcaucasian republic took into account the wishes of the future residents—each house was custom-made.

The history of many villages in Armenia goes back many centuries but most of them have been given a new lease of life in recent years. Alongside the old, new villages have been going up on the reclaimed land along the irrigation canals.

By the end of the five-year plan period (1981-1985), another 20 new villages will be built under a master plan.

MEADOWS OUT OF OLD QUARRIES

A technology suggested by Soviet soil specialists enables the glauconitic sands which remain after phosphoric production to be used for land reclamation.

Every year thousands of hectares of land are lost to farming because of strip mining. Up to now reclamation has been achieved by bringing in soil from other areas, a costly and ecologically self-destructing operation.

The glauconitic sands which are rich in phosphorus and calcium occur together with phosphorites, so mining and laying them on the fields is quite simple and inexpensive. It is sufficient to add nitrogen fertilizers for the reclaimed land to start yielding rich harvests.

The first large-scale experiment in the new method is going to be conducted in the coming spring on the lands around the Voskresensk phosphate factory, in the Moscow Region.

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Places to visit

The merry chirping of birds echoes round the halls of the Timiryazev biology museum where the exhibition, "Exotic Birds", has just opened.

This is the widest representation over recent years of birds living beyond our frontiers. The one hundred species of parrots and weaverbirds on view come



One of the participants in the exhibition: seven-year-old Yasha Smirnov with his parrot "Korol".

from as far abroad as Australia and Asia, America and Africa. The weaverbirds received their name from their ability to weave nests in the shape of balls, nests and ovals of twigs. Visitors to the exhibition admire their beautiful plumage.

A talking budgerigar, named Yasha, has the following suggestion to visitors in the exhibition: "Let's drink... tea."

Alexander's parakeets.

Photos by Gennady Dubeltsovsky

AMBER ROOM—TO REPEAT THE UNREPEATABLE

For a fourth decade, restoration work continues in the Catherine's Palace in Pushkin, a southern suburb of Leningrad.

For many years, the restorers have not lost hope that they might discover traces of the Amber Room, which was stolen by the Nazis during the war. From the very start of the designed work, the architect Nikolai Khvostov and his wife artist Marianna Yelenevskaya. With the finding of valuable documents and photographs of the Amber Room, their lengthy archive searches have been completed. In a complex experiment at all ways, they have found the lost method of joining amber, which allows achieving the panels' gem of the colours close to the original. Now a large group of Leningrad's best stone-carvers are conducting the treatment of the sorted amber. The restorers plan to complete the set of mosaic panels by 1990.

And now it has been decided to repeat the unrepeatable. Enthusiasm has been displayed by Leningrad architect Gennik Khvostov and his wife artist Marianna Yelenevskaya. With the finding of valuable documents and photographs of the Amber Room, their lengthy archive searches have been completed. In a complex experiment at all ways, they have found the lost method of joining amber, which allows achieving the panels' gem of the colours close to the original. Now a large group of Leningrad's best stone-carvers are conducting the treatment of the sorted amber. The restorers plan to complete the set of mosaic panels by 1990.

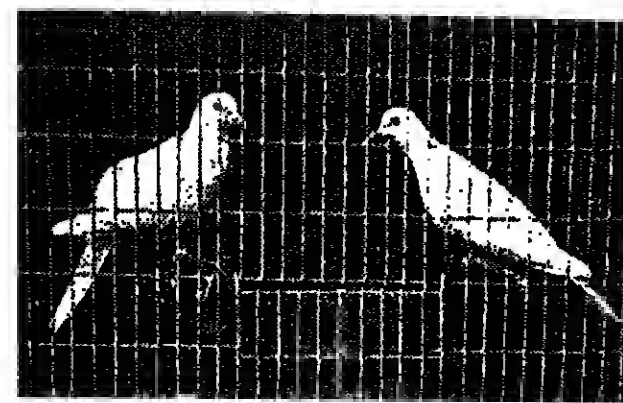
OF INTEREST

Vesna finds master

One may only guess about the fate which has fallen to the lot of a sheep dog named Vesna who, in the search for her master, began a journey from Kuzbyshev to the Byelorussian town of Mory. She travelled for nearly three years.

The meeting was unexpected. During his evening walk some one nudged Vyacheslav Strupov into the back. When he turned around he saw a shaggy, lean dog which was looking him straight in the eye with sad look. Vyacheslav recognized in her his Vesna, whom he had left in Mory back in April 1979.

With all the trouble of moving to a new place, he had been unable to take the dog with him. Vyacheslav went back for it. The sheep dog was not in the city at that time. Having broken its chain, she had escaped.



White laughing turtle-doves.

Talking Yasha and his feathered colleagues

Small African parakeets huddle together on their perch, while large birds, such as the Venezuelan Amazon Gila and the black-moustached Alexander's parakeet, stroll about proudly. The more "intelligent" of the parrots voice their dissent in an authoritative manner.

A talking budgerigar, named Yasha, has the following suggestion to visitors in the exhibition: "Let's drink... tea."

Alexander's parakeets.

Photos by Gennady Dubeltsovsky

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BUILDING SITE ON TOP OF THE SLAG HEAP

Slag heaps, which are conical dumps from coal mines that uselessly occupy land, have been chosen by students from the Makhovskiy Civil Engineering Institute for building sites. Right of fantasy and precise evaluations are combined in this original project which was awarded a prize at the All-Union contest of students' work.

Young architects are ready to regard a slag heap as an excellent building site for a comfortable residential estate to house five to seven thousand people.

A CONCERT IN A NORTHERN MUSEUM

The Kirillo-Belozersky history and architecture museum-preserve near the northern town of Volodga invited visitors to a show and a concert.

In the premises of the former kitchen—a monument to early Russian architecture, where the exposition of applied folk art is now on—old songs were sung by amateur artists, while women workers to folk

dress took their seats at the tables.

The show of peasant creativity is the result of scientific expeditions of museum researchers around the region. It features items of everyday peasant life of the past centuries created by Volodga potters, blacksmiths, wood carvers, lace-makers, weavers, and seamstresses.



In the photo: a performance by the "Ushanka" Ensemble.

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VIEWPOINT

NEW PROJECTS FOR 1983

Ivan GANICHEV, Vice-Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Construction, talks our correspondent

The sum total of capital investments for 1983 is 144.5 thousand million rubles. All the resources—financial, material, and human are first and foremost concentrated on the completion of continuing projects.

This year, expenditure on equipment will increase to reach two-fifths of the capital investments. The volume of construction and assembly work has been correspondingly reduced. Compared with last year, investment into the reconstruction and retooling of currently operating enterprises will experience a ten per cent growth.

The backbone of the economy is the fuel and energy complex. The country has essentially completed work on a long-term energy programme. It includes the retooling and development of the oil extraction and processing, and coal mining; the power industry will also expand. This year alone, another 12.3 million kilowatts will be added to the existing capacities in the power industry with thirty-five per cent of the growth coming from nuclear stations. One-million-kilowatt power units are to be commissioned in the Central Russian Federation, and in the Ukraine, while the Baltic republics will have this country's first power unit rated at a million and a half kilowatts. Three million stations will be incrementally by 5.5 million kilowatts. Construction will be completed on Power Station No. 1 in Ekibastuz, in Kazakhstan, with a capacity of four million kilowatts, and the Surgut Power Station, the biggest in Western Siberia, with a projected power rating of 3.3 million kilowatts. New power blocks will be put into operation in Azerbaijan, the Ukraine and Chechnya.

Western Siberia reveals one big construction site. This part of the country is a huge pastry of oil whose discovery in the 60s produced a worldwide sensation. Today, half of the gas in the country is extracted here. To transport this much, gas pipelines are being built, including the one to deliver gas to Western Europe from Urengoi, via Pomory and Uzhgorod. It is a pipeline 4.5 thousand kilometres long which will be made operable in 1984. All in all, in 1983, it is planned to commission 10,800 km of gas pipelines, as well as hundreds of kilometres of pipelines to transport oil and oil products.

The biggest construction sites of the coal mining industry are the powerful pits in Eastern Siberia—in the Krasnoyarsk Territory, the Irkutsk Region, and Yakutia.

Large metal and engineering enterprises are to be commissioned.

Among the biggest projects in 1983 is the Baikal-Amur Railway between Eastern Siberia and the Far East. It stretches more than three thousand kilometres and is designed to bring to life the areas adjacent to the line, which are rich in minerals and timber. More than one-third of the capital investment, or 47,000 million rubles, is allocated to the agricultural complex and for the further development of agriculture and associated industries. To meet the needs of the urban and rural population, 25,000 million rubles have been allocated to construction of schools, kindergartens and crèches, hospitals, institutions, libraries, etc.

Housing construction continues on a large scale. This year, nearly ten million people will move into new flats or improve their housing conditions.

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